Increase in urban slums in Maharashtra

1498. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of slums in urban areas of Maharashtra have increased manifold during the last one decade;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any survey in this behalf;

(c) if so, the finding thereof;

(d) the remedial measures Government propose to take to contain the rising trend in slums in the State; and

(e) the amenities Government propose to provide in existing slums of the State with the help of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per information furnished by the State Government of Maharashtra, survey was carried out in Mumbai and Greater Mumbai. A survey has also been undertaken in respect of other 60 cities of the States where the slum act is applicable and the same will be completed by the end of March, 2002. The findings will come out after the survey and the scrutiny of the data.

(d) The State Government of Maharashtra has issued an Ordinance to protect Slum Dwellers prior to 1.1.95 and the construction after 1.1.95 will be treated as unauthorised structures and will be demolished.

(e) With a view to improve environmental and living conditions of the slum dwellers the National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) is being implemented in 61 cities. Under this programme amenities such as water taps, common toilets, storm water drains, pathways, street lights and construction/ and or upgradation of houses etc. are being provided to the slum dwellers.

Moreover, to ameliorate the conditions of the slum dwellers living below poverty line in different towns and cities all over the country, a new scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)" has been announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th August, 2001. This scheme has a two pronged strategy for dealing with the problems of the slum dwellers, *viz.* (1) construction of the new dwelling units and upgradation of the existing units: (2) providing basic amenities such as sanitation and water supply through a sub-component

named "Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan" which is aimed to provide community toilet complexes to be maintained by the community based organizations of slum dwellers themselves. During the current financial year, a subsidy of Rs. 100 crore is being allocated by the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation from out of their own savings. Detailed modalities of the scheme as also the detailed guidelines are being worked out. A review would be made about the preformance of the scheme before the issues of continuation of the scheme and the budget allocation therein for the Tenth Plan Period are considered.

Making Tirupati as a slum-free city

1499. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is taking initiative to develop Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh as a slum-free city;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the other cities likely to be made slum-free cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) There is no such formal proposal as yet.

Change of use of plots meant for parks/community centres

1500. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA has changed the use of plots earmarked for parks/ community centres for other purposes during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Urban Development has issued instructions in January 1996 that no developed park will be allowed to be put to any other purpose other than green. Accordingly DDA has not changed the land use, of any developed park/community centre during the last five years. However, city level transport/infrastructure projects like MRTS, fly-overs etc., which are